



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/896,999 Confirmation No. 1156  
Applicant : KEZUKA, Koichiro et al.  
Filing Date : July 2, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 1746  
Examiner : WILLS, Monique M.  
Title : BATTERY  
  
Docket No. : 09792909.5106  
Customer No. : 26263

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Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE  
TO APRIL 15, 2004 FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Responsive to the Office Action dated April 15, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the accompanying Request for Continued Examination and the following amendment:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.